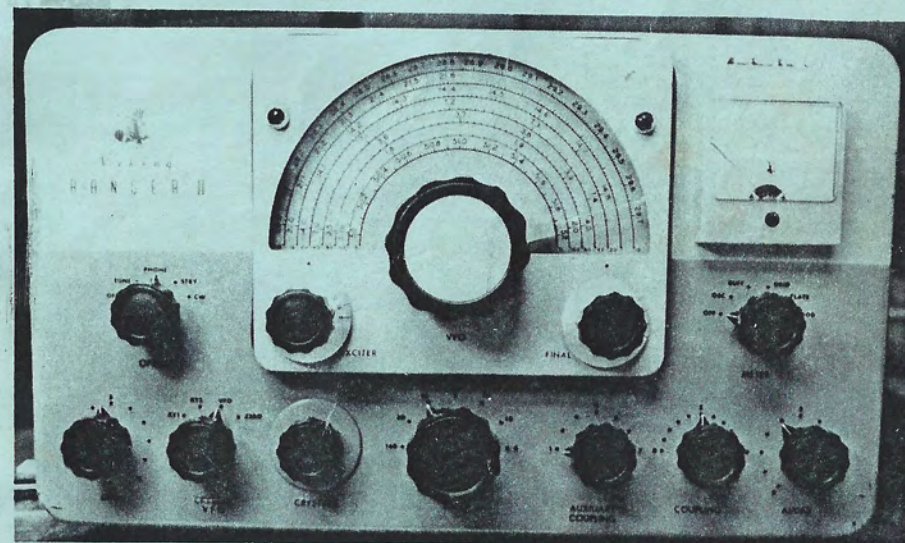


* MAIL DROPS
June 1990

The ACE



Johnson Viking Ranger transmitters are popular among pirate broadcasters because they have a built-in VFO, high-level plate modulation, adequate audio that may be improved with simple modifications, and they are small. The founder of the E. F. Johnson Company, Edgar Johnson, will be 91 years old on June 10.

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JUNE

Welcome to the June DiaLogs column. As noted in the May issue, there was an early deadline for this column, so if your loggings did not make this issue, they will appear next month.

Your loggings are welcome at POB 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207 by the 25th of the month. They must arrive here at HQ by that date, so allow adequate time for mailing.

I want to express my thanks to Don Bishop for his willingness to publish the bulletin this month in my absence. Hopefully, things will be back to normal next month.

Now... on to the loggings.

NORTH AMERICA - SHORTWAVE

CHGO: 7415, 4/8, 2335-0000+, SIO=333. Many IDs & mix of mx. Lots of talk by OM DJ. (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 4/8, 2328-0158, SIO=333. Some of the mx had eastern mysticism overtones. Commentary on how Long John Silver got into free radio. Asked listeners to lobby for 41m community stns. 20 watts anncd. (FOSTER,MI) 7415, 4/8, 0049-0157*, SIO=444. Hosted by LJS w/ mostly 70s mx. Many IDs. (COLLINS,WI)

East Coast Beerdrinker Radio, R. USA, WPRA, R. Ganymede, Rev. Voice of Plainville: 7415, 4/16, 0130-0245. QSO w/ Commandante John de Rev. V. saying R. Greenland may have had something to do w/ jamming his sig. WPRA in SSB & would not respond to question de R. Ganymede abt maildrop. (FOSTER,MI)

East Coast Pirate Radio: 7415, 4/14, 2356-0003, SIO=444. Test xmsn w/ QSO to other stns. Anncd 105 watts w/ 41m dipole. (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 5/6, 0433-0444, SIO=333. Test xmsn w/ a 2 cuts from Meatloaf's "Bat Out of Hell." Good sig, bad taste. #s stn on at 0440. (FOSTER,MI) (COLLINS,WI)

ECPR/R. Clandestine: 7415, 4/22, 0405, SIO=444. Rock mx by Who. ID for RC hrd. Test xmsn. PSE QSL. (KARCHESKI,MA) 7417, 4/22, 0435-0515, SIO=554. Attempted dialog w/ RF Burns by ECPR which resulted in RF playing intro to pgm after each call. RC then played Beatles tune. ECPR had excellent sig. (FOSTER,MI)

Fourth of July Radio: 7415, 4/16, 0235, SIO=232. Jeff Johnson bids this party farewell at same time as Outlaw X. (FOSTER,MI)

Hope Radio International: 7345v, 4/23, 0118-0146*, SIO=434. Mailbag segment w/ rpts read. Said they never intended to use PopComm as maildrop. Relay of R. Comedy Club Int'l, starting w/ wolf howl parody of V of Tomorrow. Drifted down in freq. I wondered how long it would take before a pirate took Prague's place on this newly vacant freq. (ZELLER,OH) 7400, 5/20, 0110-0147*, SIO=322. Letters from listeners. Hrd "Boys Are Back in Town." Gator Meat commercial. (FULLER,MA)

KBFA: 7415, 4/15, 0026-0040, SIO=444. OM DJ name "the Archer" de KBFA, Broadcasters of Free America. Tx to WXZR in QSO. (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 4/15, 0035-0046, SIO=444. Said would be on 8000 kHz later in QSO w/ WXZR. Good sig. (FOSTER,MI) 7415, 4/15, 0036-0046. Hrd giving SINPO rpt to WXZR & talk abt stn history. "AM 8000" ID. (VERALDI,ONT) 7415, 4/22, 0021, SIO=333. Couldn't hear pgming, just ID. Wish they'd get an addr. (ARTHUR,NY)

KFAT: 7400.2, 4/21, 0209-0246*, SIO=444. CW & country blues mx. KFAT promos & IDs. "Fat, Fat, KFAT." Funny ads for beer, gum, phone co. Abruptly off 0246. (ROSS,ONT) 7400, 4/21, 0215-0245*. Solid S-8 sig. Tree Frog Beer ad. No QSL info hrd. PSE QSL. (SACHS,IL)

Midnight Radio: 7415, 5/5, 0429-0542, SIO=333. "Broadcasting on SW and all points in between." Hosts Capt. Midnight & Maxwell Silver w/ crude & repugnant talk radio from condom earrings to designer underwear. Mentioned a big Halloween pgm lined up & said hi to Havana, Zeller & Brewer. Blue Ridge Summit addr w/ tel of 214-504-

6769 for recorded rpts. Audio probs near end. (FOSTER,MI) (SUESS,WI) 7415.9, 5/5, 0505-0541*, SIO=554. Lots of talk between ops. At 0510, changed freq to 7414.9. (SACHS,IL)

One Voice Radio: 7415, 4/16, 2119, SIO=151. Very weak sig w/ distorted audio. Soft-spoken OM thanked listeners. PA addr. PSE QSL. (KARCHESKI,MA) 7410, 4/20, 2314-2330*. Hrd blues songs. PSAs for health/exercise. Blue Ridge Summit addr. (SACHS,IL) 6860, 4/28, 2319+. Requests for rpts to addr, "You are responsible for your life." (HANINGTON,ONT) 7416, 5/13, 0208-0225, SIO=323. OM annrc w/ readings de medical journal w/ topics on heart disease, high fiber side effects, cocaine, cholesterol. (FOSTER,MI) 7415v, 5/13, 0209-0226*. A3H xmsn. Classical Chopin piano mx. A3H mod gave good USB, but no mod on LSB side, so AM reception was muddy. Talk on cocaine & infertility. (ZELLER,OH)(COLLINS,WI) (MUSSELL,KY) (FULLER,MA) 7415, 5/13, 0217-0225. Health care talk & classical piano mx. (SACHS,IL)

Outlaw X: 7415, 4/16, 0155-0235, SIO=433. In QSO. Said correct addr is POB 2434, Richmond, VA 23224. Said addr in Nov PopComm was incorrect. Asked Commandante John if he had IDed as R. Kampuchea. (FOSTER,MI) (ROSS,ONT)

QSOs/Joint Broadcasts 4/14: 7414.7/6858.2, 1927-2346*, SIO=333. Joint bcst by 3 stns on 3 freqs. Anncd 15054, but not hrd. Punker mx w/ several addr given. Talk abt antennas. Hrd R. USA, Samurai Radio & Voice of Monotony. Read skeds for Europirates. (ROSS,ONT) (VERALDI,ONT)(D'ANGELO,PA) (KARCHESKI,MA) 7415, 2355-0148. QSO w/ R. USA, V of Monotony, Samurai R, ECPR, KBFA, WKZP, etc. (COLLINS,WI)(D'ANGELO,PA)

QSO 4/15: 7415, 4/15, 0001-0210+. QSO w/ R. Ganymede. Commandante John, Fake #s stn, R. USA, WPRA, Outlaw X. (COLLINS,WI) 0010-0027. Hrd WXZR, Samurai, V of Monotony, Rockabilly R. Hrd mention of ECPR & R. USA, but not hrd. (FOSTER,MI) (BARNARD,ONT)

QSO 4/16: 7415, 4/16, 0126-0345. QSO w/ WORM, R Ganymede & tentative ID for Pirate R. Int'l. PSE QSL. (BARNARD,ONT)

Radio Clandestine: 7416-7400, 5/2, 0200-0215 & 0240-0303, SIO=232. Recorded show so unsure if relay. Moved from 7416 at 0213 due to #s stn. Rebcast on 7400. Ads for "Del Haven Kennels" & "Warner Bras". Also had test of "Universal Spaceship & Flying Machine Imperative Locator." "They hunt us like dogs! They've been hunting us for 18 yrs. We may not be able to hide much longer." (FOSTER,MI) PSE QSL. (PFAPF,VA) 7400, 5/2, 0232-0302*, SIO=443. Said may be a farewell bcst. Said Drool the Cabin Boy was being held captive. Hrd song "The Heat is On" w/ abrupt s/off. (SACHS,IL)

Radio Ganymede: 7415, 4/15, 1747-1810, SIO=333. OM DJ in QSO. (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 4/16, 0029-0055, SIO=423. Ganymede has great fishing & they listen to Dylan, Moody Blues & Rocky & Bullwinkle. Jammed at 0055 by "Get off the band while you can." Said had been on the air for 6 yrs. Blue Ridge Summit addr. (COLLINS,WI) (ROSS,ONT) (FOSTER,MI) (KARCHESKI,MA)

Radio USA: 7395, 4/21, 0245-0253. Punk/hard rock mx. S-1 sig above noise threshold. Sirens at s/off. (SACHS,IL) 7396, 4/22, 0100-0140, SIO=232. Missed beginning of show. Ad for Pirates Illustrated mag w/ Pirate Radio glossy calendar "with all your favorite radio personalities." Featured female DJ. Wellsville addr. Also mentioned Hilo addr. An old pgm? (FOSTER,MI) (BARNARD,ONT) (SACHS,IL) (D'ANGELO,PA) 7410, 5/13, *0138-0142*, SIO=333-. On immediately after VOT QRT. OM w/ novelty song on piano. OM annrc w/ rapid, chanting, repeating talk, but too weak in static to hear a clear ID. Tentative ID. (ZELLER,OH) 7416.7, 5/13, *0201-0202*, SIO=343. Same chanting OM. Clear ID this time. Quick QRT. (ZELLER,OH) 7420-7395, 5/13, 0201 & 0320-0350, SIO=222. 1st hrd on 7420 w/ only stn ID. Then live show on 7395 w/ MBS & Miss Scarlet. "Fruit of the Loom News Brief." Editorial by Miss Scarlet in SS, possibly as a spoof of R. Mexico. Greetings to several stns. (FOSTER,MI) 7394.7, 5/13, 0301-0350*, SIO=352+. Punk rock mx in bothersome static. On simultaneously w/ VOT on 49m. VOT had 2 1 hr xmsns tonight w/out visit from FCC. (ZELLER,OH) 7395, 5/13, 0303+. Xmted over another pirate already on

freq, which may have been in LSB. (SACHS,IL)

Revolutionary Voice of Plainville/Slanesville: 7415, 4/16, 0019-0102*, SIO=333. OM reading #s. DJ was Commandante John. POB 6527, Baltimore, MD addr. Instrum mx & mailbag show. (ROSS,ONT) (KARCHESKI,MA) 7415, 4/16, 0105-0240, SIO=333. More QSOs. Rev. Voice's goal was to gain independence from Greenland. (FOSTER,MI) (KARCHESKI,MA)

Tube Radio: freq?, 4/28, 0058-0127. New age mx ads for Bear Wiz & Carpet Reclaimers. Comedy incl Channel 6 news rpt of Reeveus Kneevus jump into hole to the center of the earth & alien attack warning. Balt. addr. (KALACH via ANARC BBS) 7395, 4/29, 0106-0128*, SIO=433. Mix of strange synthesized mx pieces & recorded comedy sketches by Firesign Theatre & others. All talk by OM w/ simulated synthesized voice. On future pgm, will talk abt specific tubes per listener requests. Somewhat bizarre flavor to pgm. Baltimore addr. (ZELLER,OH) Said was 7th bcst, (FULLER,MA)

Voice of Kentucky-Fried Reagan (or Radio): 7400, 4/21, 0239, SIO=343. Joined in progress w/ country/pop mx. Joke ads. Tree Frog Brewing ad. Abruptly off at 0246. PSE QSL. (KARCHESKI,MA)

Voice of Monotony: 7414.8, 4/2, 0129-0149, SIO=333. OM DJ w/ punk rock. "2 triple cheese & order fries" IDs hrd. Slanesville or Blue Ridge Summit addr. (ROSS,ONT)

Voice of the New Forest: 7410, 4/22, 0101-0117*, SIO=433. Annrcr has calm, laid back style of SML. EZL rock. No QSL info. PSE QSL. (SACHS,IL)

Voice of Tomorrow: 7410, 5/13, 0026-0140. Dead carrier until 0030. Classical mx prior to call for nationalism w/ anti-Jewish, anti-Black tone. OR addr. (SUESS,WI) (FOSTER,MI) (SACHS,IL) (BAXTER,KS) (ZELLER,OH) (COLLINS,WI) (FULLER,MA) (ARTHUR,NY) 6239.9, 5/13, 0228-0330*. Different pgm than on 7410 earlier. Classical mx & usual ID/IS. Speech before live audience at Institute for Historical Review. Holocaust was a myth per historian who examined Auschwitz gas chamber. Cash requested to OR addr. (ZELLER,OH) (SACHS,IL) (FULLER,MA)

WAXX Relay: 7415, 4/22, 0140-0305. Relay of stn playing country mx. Relaying xmtr did not ID. Ads & weather rpts hrd. Stn de Eau Claire, WI. PSE QSL. (FOSTER,MI) (BARNARD,ONT) (SACHS,IL) (VERALDI,ONT) (HANINGTON,ONT) (BAXTER,KS) (D'ANGELO,PA)

WENJ: 7416.6, 4/8, 0009-0018, SIO=333. Oldies, Elvis mx. "Golden Oldies." Jack Beane, DJ. (ROSS,ONT)

WGAR: 7415, 4/1, 0102-0107*, SIO=333. OM talk abt "Smokin'" Mojo & PopComm. QTH given. (ROSS,ONT) 7415LSB, 5/12, 2120-2145, SIO=222. Krishna talk. I thought this left w/ the Beatles. (FOSTER,MI) 7415, 5/12, 2119-2145*, SIO=222. Tent. ID. Krishna readings & technical details of stn. Hvy QRN. (SUESS,WI)

WKZP: 7415, 4/15, 0027-0033, SIO=444. OM DJ named Sparky in QSO. (ROSS,ONT) (VERALDI,ONT) (FOSTER,MI)

WRFI: 7415, 4/15, 1944-1045, SIO=222. OM in QSO w/ R. Ganymede. No QSLs available. (ROSS,ONT)

WVIR or WVRI: 7546, 4/22, 0409-0415*, SIO=454. Exc sig w/ rock mx & OM saying "the future is an illusion." Hrd "the voice of the Northern Hemisphere." No addr hrd. PSE QSL. (D'ANGELO,PA)

WXCK: 7415.1, 5/14, 0022-0112*, SIO=444. Relay of a live commercial stn on 94.5 MHz until 0031 w/ good modulation, followed by 40 min of distorted and/or undermod rock. Brief IDs by OM at 0040 and at QRT. Mod OK on talk. No addr. PSE QSL. (ZELLER,OH) Sig trashed due to beacon. (PFAFF,VA) ID possibly WXCK. (COLLINS,WI)

WXZR: 7400, 3/31, 0300-0323*, SIO=232. Bizarre! (COLLINS,WI) 7400, 4/1, 0301-0320, SIO=444. OM DJ w/ ID as Meontological Research Radio.

PA addr. Mentioned "our very first recording test." A few songs incl "My Boomerang Won't Come Back." (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 4/14, 2352-0040, SIO=333. DJ named Stanya in QSO w/ heavy echo on voice. (ROSS,ONT) 7415, 4/21, 0053-0106. Bagpipe mx. A nice selection of different types of mx, foreign, blues, etc. Pro-sounding. Lots of IDs w/ YL & OM alternating phonetics. (SACHS,IL)

WYMN: 7400.5v, 5/6, 1437-1517*, SIO=253+. Typical pgm of folk/rock & pop mx, all by YL artists. YL annrcr w/ IDs such as "You are tuned to WYMN, high voices & deep significance." Also w/ usual slogan "testosterone free r." No addr given w/ "You can write us at (dead air.)" Listed as Wellsville. (ZELLER,OH)

UNIDENTIFIEDS

6265, 4/14, 0315-0330*. Relay of Deutsche Welle bcst; off abruptly at 0330. (VERALDI,ONT) (HANINGTON,ONT)

7410, 4/13, 0230-0303, SIO=343. Hrd lots of instrum mx & whistling. Some talk by OM & YL. Lang? (BARNARD,ONT)

7410, 5/13, *0139-0141*. Another op came on immediately following VOT pgm & played what sounded like a GG dance tune. Made a few comments & left the air. Sig was so weak, could not copy audio. (SACHS,IL) (BAXTER,KS)

7415, 4/15, *0055-0058*, SIO=444. "Get off the band while you can, man" repeated, followed by siren during R. Ganymede. (COLLINS,WI)

7415, 4/16, 0248-0257, SIO=343. Stn bcsting on SSB w/ a little heavy metal, possibly Slayer. On right after QSOs. Arlington, VA addr. No ID hrd. (FOSTER,MI) [possibly Outlaw X.]

7415, 5/13, 0212. Weak sig hrd w/ much QRN. Very low audio levels. Seemed to be mostly talk, w/ little mx. (BAXTER,KS)

7415, 5/14, 0009-0031, SIO=121. Played "City of Light" & whistled w/ "Joy to the World" by 3 Dog Night. Lost into QRM. PSE QSL. (PFAFF,VA) 0016+. Extremely weak audio, but fair sig. Hrd "Joy to the World" by 3 Dog Night. Very strong sig by 0055 w/ audio somewhat louder. Hrd "My Generation." Audio adjusted 0100-0110. Definitely amateurish. (BAXTER,KS)

7416, 4/14, 0325-0350, SIO=222. Bad QSB. OM DJ w/ Blue Ridge Summit addr, but no copy on ID. Phone of 214-504-7669. PSE QSL. (ROSS,ONT)

ELSEWHERE IN THE WORLD

European Christian Radio: 6210, 4/8, 0612-0636, SIO=333. Ex 6205. Instrum pop, gospel. Addr in Austria. Many IDs & addr. (ROSS,ONT)

La Voz del CID: 7340, 4/22, *0400, SIO=333. Anthem, chimes; OM is SS. Guitar mx. QRM de CHU. (KARCHESKI,MA)

Radio Stella Int'l: 6319.48, 4/8, 0535-0551, SIO=222. EE pop mx. Bad QSB/QRN. OM DJ read letters w/ ID as "North American Service of R. Stella." Freq given as 6320. (ROSS,ONT) 6320, 5/13, 0453-0516, SIO=121. Played "Time Passages" by Al Stewart, "Just My Imagination" & theme to "Midnight Express." Tentative ID. (PFAFF,VA)

PSE QSL ADDRESSES

Charles Collins, 1977 S 74th St., West Allis, WI 53219.
Richard D'Angelo, 2216 Burkey Drive, Wyomissing, PA 19610.
Walter Karcheski, Jr., 23 Gail Drive, Holden, MA 01520-1710.
Raymond Pfaaff, 4333 Cub Run Rd., Chantilly, VA 22021.
Robert Ross (NEW ADDR), Box 1003, Stn B, London, Ont, Canada N6A 5K1.
Gary Veraldi, Box 214, Owen Sound, Ontario, Canada, N4K 5P3.

Thanks to all of the reporters for the June column. I look forward to your contributions for the July issue. Consider using the logging forms printed in the May issue to help your editor.

The Directory

an A*C*E special feature

Edition 14.1

By John T. Arthur

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These are the known mailing addresses of active and planned North American Free Radio stations, revised to 20 May 1990. Known mediumwave and FM frequencies are given.

3434 N. Pacific Highway
Medford, OR 97501
Free Radio One

4431 Lehigh Road
Suite 196
College Park, MD 20740
WTNU

Monticello, ME 04760
Radio Newyork International

TAGAR
Room 256
Union Building
Stony Brook, NY 11794
United World Radio
Voice of Free Long Island

P.O. Box 142
Cottetkill, NY 12419
WJDI, 1620 kHz

P.O. Box 314
Clakamas, OR 97015
Voice of Tomorrow, 1616 kHz*

P.O. Box 6527
Baltimore, MD 21219
East Coast Pirate Radio
Secret Society Radio
Tube Radio
Voice of Bono
Voice of Greece
Voice of Revolutionary Plainville

*also on shortwave
** existence questionable

P.O. Box 109
Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214
Hope Radio
Howdy Doody Radio
KRUD
Midnight Radio
One More Voice From America Radio
Radio Chesapeake Bay International
Radio Comedy Club International
Radio Flatulence
RFM
Radio Mexico
Society of Industrialized Music
Voice of the Epileptic Catfish
Voice of Monotony
Voice of Stench
WCPR WKND WPUB
WENJ WKZP WRNR
WHIP WOMB WXZR

P.O. Box 23792
Phoenix, AZ 85063
Fantasy Broadcast Station
FNTC, 101.3 MHz

P.O. Box 40554
Washington, DC 20016
Black Box Radio
Pirate Radio New England, 1616 kHz*
Radio Angeline
Radio Espirito
Radio Lymph Node International
Radio Ohm
The Crooked Man
UA Express
WBNY
WBST, 666 kHz*
WWW

P.O. Box 452
Wellsville, NY 14895

Action Radio
KFAT
KMUD
KNBS
KQRP
KROK
KXVN, 830 kHz and 92.7 MHz
Plan 9**
Radio Contraband
Radio EXP
Radio Garbanzo
Radio Free Mumbo-Jumbo
Radio North Coast International
Radio USA
Secret Mountain Laboratory Ltd.

*also on shortwave
** existence questionable

Toynbee Radio**
Voice of Aphrodite**
Voice of Bob
Voice of Fubar
Voice of the Golden Eagle
Voice of Kentucky Fried Rodents
Voice of Lester
Voice of Laryngitis
Voice of the Rainbow
74-WKUE
WQTU, 1620 kHz*
WYMN
X-Ray Radio**
Zeppelin Radio Worldwide

Contacting a free radio station

Whenever an address is announced, use it. If no address is announced, use the address listed here. In a pinch, write to one of the primary mail drops, but don't hold your breath.

Do not expect a mail drop to pay for your QSL; enclose adequate postage (three mint first class stamps) for forwarding and reply. Do not send an SASE unless specifically requested by the station. Outside the United States, send two or three IRCs. If not IRCs are available, send a dollar or two.

Announcing a mail drop is not a guarantee of response. Don't blame the mail drop if you never hear from the station. Mail drop operators are not QSL managers, they only handle mail. Broadcasters should keep their promises.

Avoid asking about location. It is a dumb question that operators only answer to mislead correspondents. Most, though, will answer questions about power or equipment, and they appreciate your technical observations, bandscans and cassette recordings.

Open mail drops

If you operate and desire audience contact, use a mail drop for some security. The open mail drops are:

P.O. Box 109, Blue Ridge Summit, PA 17214
P.O. Box 452, Wellsville, NY 14895
P.O. Box 1087, Sun Valley, CA 91352
P.O. Box 2112, Johnson City, TN 37605
P.O. Box 6527, Baltimore, MD 21219
P.O. Box 40554, Washington, DC 20016

Always write for details before using any address.

Operators and listeners are requested to confirm activity and address information for periodic updates of "The Directory." Write to: RD#1, Box 15A, Belfast, NY 14711.

Thanks to Kirk Baxter, William Blight, Arthur G. Pym, Andrew Yoder and George Zeller for their assistance in compiling this list. "The Directory" may not be reproduced for commercial use without the written consent of the Arthur. *Non-profit use unrestricted.*

The 'secrets' behind Secret Society Radio

By Don Bishop
P.O. Box 4075
Overland Park, KS 66204-0075

"Here Comes The Sun--No, The Feds" might have been a good title for the last tune to modulate Secret Society Radio's transmitter in mid-February. Conrad Clark Dalton had operated his Secret Society Radio shortwave in Floyd, Virginia, for about four months until FCC engineers closed the pirate station at 7 p.m. on Feb. 17. They had traced the station's 11-watt, 6850 kHz signal to its source.

'Carry-out' order

When the engineers left, they carried with them Dalton's transmitter, two receivers, a wattmeter, a cassette recorder, six crystals and an RF amplifier designed for CB frequencies.

When the first engineer entered, Dalton, in his studio, was playing part of a song, "Here Comes The Sun," by the Beatles. "Half the song had played over the air when I turned the transmitter off. I'd been working on the tape machine and I wanted to see whether it would work."

When the engineer entered, Dalton said, "the transmitter was off. But I had left my Yaesu FRG 8800 receiver tuned to 6850 kHz and it still was on."

What was said

How did the subject of Dalton giving equipment to the FCC come up? "He offered it to the commission," said J. Jerry Freeman, the engineer-in-charge at the FCC's Norfolk, Virginia, office. "He assumed the investigator would take it. He said to the investigator, 'I guess you're going to take the equipment.' The investigator said, 'yes,' and took it."

Dalton said that he and FCC electronics engineer A.C. "Cecil" Ellington had partially disassembled the station so Ellington could make power and frequency measurements on the transmitter. He said at that point he asked Ellington: "You're taking the transmitter and that's all you're taking?" He said Ellington answered, "No, because the DX 160 and the FRG 8800 can tune shortwave, they have to go, too."

Ellington forgot the form

Freeman said Ellington had failed to bring with him a printed form normally executed by a violator who surrenders equipment. The form conveys title to the equipment to the U.S. government.

Freeman said Ellington told Dalton that because he lacked the proper form, Ellington could get a court order to seize the equipment or Dalton could write a letter confirming a voluntary surrender. He said Ellington reported that Dalton opted to write such a letter, and that Ellington dictated the letter to Dalton. Here is the text of the letter:

"I, Conrad Clark Dalton, reside on Virginia Route 709 near Rt. 1, Box 445, Floyd, Virginia. I have operated 'Secret Society Radio' and called myself 'Pirate

Jim' on 6850 kHz, 6811 kHz and 7411 kHz. I understand that this transmitter operation was unauthorized and illegal. I also understand that it violated Section 301 of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended.

"I am voluntarily giving permanent custody of all of the radio station equipment listed on the reverse side of this page to the Federal Communications Commission forever.

"I have used P.O. Box 6527, Baltimore, MD 21219, rented by William Blake, a voluntary mail drop.

"I am requesting that the FCC return my Yaesu FRG 8800, S/N 6N130024, in return for my cooperation.

"I have given this statement freely of my own will without any threats or promises and ask that the FCC handle this matter administratively."

Equipment Dalton surrendered

The equipment listed on the reverse of the letter includes:

1. Radio Shack Realistic DX 160 receiver.
2. Hallicrafters transmitter HT-40.
3. Yaesu receiver model FRG-8800.
4. Micronta wattmeter.
5. Realistic Miniset 18 cassette recorder.
6. FT243-style crystals marked 6815, 6850, 7410, 7980, 8120 and 8650 kHz.
7. An SCP amateur amplifier (for CB frequencies).

\$1,000 fine

Freeman issued Dalton a Notice of Apparent Liability in the amount of \$1,000. He said that after Dalton responded, he sent Dalton a Notice of Forfeiture demanding that Dalton pay the \$1,000. Freeman took no action on Dalton's request that his receiver be returned, the request that Dalton included in the letter he wrote during the station inspection. Dalton said he did not respond to the Notice of Apparent Liability. The Notice of Apparent Liability gave Dalton 30 days to respond. The Notice of Forfeiture was dated 20 days after the Notice of Apparent Liability.

Meanwhile, an *ACE* reader asked whether there was some way Dalton might appeal the surrender of his receivers. Research conducted on behalf of *The ACE's* "Question and Answer" column led to FCC attorney Lawrence Clance. He said Dalton could send an informal appeal to Field Operations Bureau chief Richard M. Smith. The information was telephoned to Dalton, who sent Smith such a letter.

Receivers ship out COD

Smith directed the return of the Yaesu and Realistic receivers. Freeman confirmed that the receivers "would be returned COD (collect-on-delivery)." When asked whether the COD charge was for shipping, Freeman inferred the alternative and laughed, "That's a good idea—we should ship them COD for the \$1,000 fine!" Dalton, Freeman said, had asked Smith to send the receivers via United Parcel Service, COD for the shipping charges.

The return of the receivers, Freeman said, is consistent with a policy announcement from FCC headquarters that field offices "should not be taking from violators any equipment that may be legally operated, except with the authority of the court."

Dalton's own worst enemy

Steps Dalton has taken since being busted may be working against him. He circulated 150 copies of a letter that reads:

"My name is Conrad Clark Dalton, otherwise known on the radio as 'Pirate Jim.' I operated the pirate radio station Secret Society Radio for the past several months, reaching into several states. On Feb. 17, very unexpectedly, FCC agents busted me, raiding my DX shack and confiscating radio equipment worth several hundred dollars.

"Taken in the bust was a Yaesu FRG-8800 receiver, a Realistic DX-160 receiver, a DX-400 receiver, a Micronta-18 cassette player/recorder and other radio equipment.

"Due to my financial situation which is caused by the bust and impending fine of Secret Society Radio by the FCC, I can no longer monitor the international shortwave frequencies.

"I am asking you to send whatever money you can to help me through this crisis. I work in a grocery store and it took me a long time to acquire the radio equipment listed above. If you cannot send any money, please send me any spare receivers you may have.

"With your help, I can return to the hobby that I have enjoyed so much since I was a teenager. Any way you can help, if it is only a letter of support, will be deeply appreciated."

Freeman said someone sent him a copy of the letter. The letter received "extra distribution" when excerpts from it were read over the air by Glenn Hauser on his shortwave program carried by U.S. and foreign broadcast stations.

No fine reduction

The letter does not seem to leave FCC officials with the impression that Dalton intends to comply with federal regulations by not broadcasting without a license in the future. As a result, Freeman is not in a frame of mind to consider reducing Dalton's fine, despite Dalton's cooperation during the inspection and the surrender of his shortwave transmitter and CB amplifier.

"I am going to enforce collection of the fine," Freeman said. He said because payment had not been made, he intended to seek payment through the court, an action that may result in Dalton's wages being garnished.

Dalton said it had saddened him not to be able to listen to international shortwave broadcasts because that has been his principle entertainment for many years.

He said he had been listening to pirate broadcasters for some time and that was what motivated him to conduct his own broadcasts. "I was getting into Canada, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, and all the way to Ontario." Dalton said he usually broadcast on 7410 kHz at about 2230Z or 2235Z when All India Radio signed off.

"My dipole was cut for 6850 kHz," he said. "I could use it anytime on 6850 kHz and the signal really boomed out. I played various music on the station, from bluegrass to country and western to rock."

Dalton's capture: 'amazing'

Secret Society radio usually broadcast on Saturday and Sunday evenings. "I wasn't on that much. It is amazing they caught me." Dalton noticed other pirates more active than he. "I hear Hope Radio International all the time. I've corresponded with them."

Dalton used his transmitter to relay programs from the Voice of Stench, another pirate station. "A lot of people caught those broadcasts, too." Dalton used the Baltimore address for verifying rebroadcasts of the Voice of Stench. His mail was relayed twice in an effort to avoid detection.

Engineer Ellington read a "bust announcement" into Dalton's cassette recorder for replay over the transmitter. The announcement said the station had been operating illegally for several months and had ceased operation.

"I had to broadcast the announcement on all the frequencies my crystals covered," Dalton said. "I couldn't do it on 6850 kHz right away because there was another pirate on the air. I said to the engineers: 'Guys, you're going to have to wait a minute. It looks like we have somebody on the line!'"

Dalton said one of the engineers told him during the inspection: "Do you realize we spent over \$11,000 trying to catch you?" He said he responded, "That's pretty good, boys, you spent \$11,000 to get this \$100 transmitter?"

Freeman said: "There may have been some small talk of funds expended by tracking down pirates all over the place," but the expense of tracing Dalton's signal was minimal.

FCC traces Dalton

Ellington said Dalton's station had been under observation for a couple of months. "The FCC monitoring stations constantly cruise the frequencies to locate and identify stations. When we hear a station we take bearings and confirm whether it is operating from where it is supposed to be."

The night after Dalton was caught, Ellington found and inspected WHBH shortwave, Richmond, Virginia, another pirate station. "We caught two within one 24-hour period," he said. "We haven't had that before."

Secret Society Radio's future

No one knows for sure whether Dalton ever will reactivate Secret Society Radio. Some who have "read between the lines" of his letter think he intends to broadcast again someday. Engineer-in-charge Freeman makes his intention clear: "If Dalton ever comes on the air again with an unlicensed station, we won't be so nice the next time."

Postscript:

Stories printed since Dalton was busted have described the FCC's action in securing his equipment as "illegal." Some have gone so far as to characterize the action as "terrorism" and as a "Gestapo tactic."

The Gestapo was the German internal security police organized under the Nazi regime. It was known for its terrorist methods directed against those the regime suspected of treason, questionable loyalty or racial inferiority. "Terrorism" is the systematic use of terror, violence and intimidation to achieve an end.

There is no record of the FCC using terror or violence, systematically or otherwise, in its enforcement efforts. FCC use of intimidation appears to be incidental to station inspections, equipment seizures and court actions, rather than systematic. Intimidation alone does not meet the definition of "terrorism."

Thus, references to FCC actions as "terrorism" and "Gestapo tactics" are unwarranted.

FCC engineers are not authorized to seize (to take by authority) equipment. They are authorized to accept the free surrender of equipment under certain circumstances. In some instances, a U.S. marshal, accompanied by FCC engineers, seizes equipment under the authority of a court order.

Ellington 'silenced'

A.C. Ellington spoke briefly a few days after busting Dalton, but he was called away to work in the field, cutting the interview short. Since then, engineer-in-charge Freeman has forbidden engineers in his office from giving interviews about pirate broadcasters. ~~~

Veried Response

your center for QSL information and comment

By John T. Arthur, proprietor
RD #1, Box 15A
Belfast, NY 14711

and Bud Wooten. "VR" is electronically transmitted to ACE headquarters on or before the 24th of each month. Please send your input and comments to the above address or leave them in the [P]ersonal Mail section of the ANARC RBBS prior to the 18th. Your active participation in the form of reports, suggestions and constructive criticism is solicited.

"Politics is simply an extension of sports."
--Richard M. Nixon, May 1, 1990

What's News: the media report

Looking for a legal way to improve your local FM dial? How about a 100mW stereo transmitter kit for less than \$30? It's available from Ramsey Electronics Inc, 793 Canning Parkway, Victor, NY 14564. I don't know if they have a catalog, but they advertise in 73 magazine pretty regularly. Their phone number is 716-924-4560. The kit is #FM-7 and it costs \$29.95. For that money, it probably is a drifty, tuned-tank circuit, but it is stereo. [thx Mark Smith]

Interested in improving community radio? Going to Ireland this summer? Then you'll want to take in AMARC4, which is happening in Dublin on Aug. 12-19. AMARC4 will include seminars, discussions and visits to Irish community (read: pirate) stations. For complete information, contact: AMARC4, 32 Gardiner Place, Dublin 1, Ireland, or phone: 353-1-788733. [direct]

Can't keep up with our laugh-a-minute vice president? Well, now there's *The Quayle Quarterly* to help chronicle Danny's every blunder. Jeff Yoder, publisher of *TQQ*, says Dan "has left an ugly trail of silly words and empty beer glasses around the globe," so he founded the *Quarterly* to help the public stay abreast of Quayle's idiocy. To subscribe, send \$12 to: *The Quayle Quarterly*, P.O. Box 8593, Brewster Station, Bridgeport, CT 06605. [Buffalo Evening News, 29 April.]

Off the Wall... the rumor center

For the record, since my report to "DiaLogs" seems to have been lost, I heard Rockabilly Radio on 24 March at 2056Z during the mass QSO with WXZR, Radio Mexico, PRN, WBNY and WRI. Rockabilly Radio did not have a mail drop to announce, but did say that they'd QSL reports printed in *The ACE*. Hope they meant it. PSE QSL! You should have heard the flak they got: "Get a real mail drop, dude."...And how about a program from WRI, Radio Rhode Island, someday? Never saw a report of them before the just mentioned QSO. Got any QSLs, guys?...Hope Radio International is seriously trying to improve their programming. Apparently many of the reports they received were critical of their Grump Club, which featured an hour or more of old Bill Cosby albums. Recent broadcasts include home-spun humor, DX News with Radio Animal and comedy from RCCI. All-in-all, a great improvement--and a great signal to boot!

Things are hopping at this shack; Between raindrops, I managed to get the longwire strung, but gale-force winds promptly took it down. The odd thing is that it didn't tear loose from the tree that was whipping around; it tore loose from the back of the house! And you may believe it--170 feet of #14 copperweld does weigh a bit. Between re-installations, the antenna really works; it makes the Hammarlund a useful DX machine! So, what's new at your shack?

Mouthpiece Theater (formerly: Soapbox) ACE members speak out:

The mail hasn't let up yet. This month we have a letter from ACE member Steve Sachs about pirate QSOs and one-shot broadcasters:

Will the Real Pirates please stand up?

Tonight was Easter night and I, as did many other avid pirate listeners, had my tape machine poised and ready with a fresh supply of blank C-90 tapes. What came on the air beginning approximately at 0000UTC (04/16) in the 41-meter band was a hodgepodge of pirate (?) stations, mixed modes, doubling, dubious call signs and overall confusion. I'm not going to name names, but the situation raises an interesting point of what it is that constitutes a pirate station. Over the last three years I have written and talked personally to a number of serious pirate operators, whose equipment, creativity and still best exemplify the trademark of those who give their best shot to the Free Radio scene.

My focus is therefore targeted for the non-serious "one-shot-deal" operators. They, fortunately, are in the minority. One can look at the stations such as WENJ and WKND (whose pictures graced the April *ACE*) and the programming of Clandestine, Garbanzo, Laryngitis and the multitude of others who put together either very solid, tightly formatted live programs or professional sounding studio tapes, and know who's serious and who's not.

My concern is that anyone with an HF transmitter or transceiver can go to 7415 kHz, hold a transistor radio or stereo to the microphone and call himself "The Voice of the Brussel Sprout" or whatever--and then sit back and wait to see themselves in *The ACE* or *Pirate Pages*, or even be immortalized in George Zeller's fine *Pirate Radio Directory*.

Maybe that's the nature of the beast, but it irritates me that it cheapens the whole concept of Free Radio. The idea that individuals can jam others, make noise and give dubious one-time call signs and be given so much attention, while others who are more serious are being busted by the FCC or running that risk just doesn't seem right. Even the 1989 jammer station, "Hello Radio," was immortalized in Zeller's book. My question is: "What, if anything, can be done?"

Again, will the real pirates please stand up? If you agree or disagree, I'd like to know.
s/Steven Sachs

Well, to begin with, there are as many different concepts of what constitutes a pirate as there are listeners. Some people consider CBers pirates, because they do not have licenses to transmit. Some people think that because Free Radio is "unregulated," anything goes. Who's right? They all are. The fact is that Free Radio is just that: Free. It's free of restraints and rigidity. If it's also free of good taste, that's unfortunate, but it comes with the territory. True, no one like a jerk who only jams other stations, but if that's his level of intelligence, we have to live with it. I mean, what do you do if you're listening to a weak signal from the tropics and VOA (or BBC) signs on less than 5 kHz away? It's the same thing in Free Radio DX; sometimes you can hear the station you want, sometimes you can't. As far as

what can be done, there isn't a whole lot to do. You can refrain from reporting such idiots, but someone is sure to do so. And are they truly "immortalized" in George's book, or did he simply do everyone a big favor and point out that they exist? Let's hear more on this topic. jta

What do you think? "VR" is a forum for *your* opinion and comment. Kindly organize *your* thoughts, be concise and expect comment directed at *yours*. I may edit to fit space available but I will try not to alter your intended meaning.

A*C*E QSL Scorecard

Revised: 20 May 1990

Key:

NAm = North American pirate QSLs

dif = number of different stations represented

Eur = EuroPirate QSLs

tot = total pirate QSLs (NAm + other)

name-state	pirates			cland		Best QSL
	NAm	dif	Eur	tot	dif	
J Arthur-NY	102	52	1	103	1	SML
R Biggs-TX	26	23	1	27		YoVoyager
G Conner-PA	32	26	2	34		VoAbnormal
W Craighead-KS					36	Giai Phong
B Fuller, Jr-MA	8	5		8		RFM
N Grace-MA	26	18	2	28	1	WBRI
W Martin-DE	63	44	4	67		
M McCrackin-CA	2	2		2		Zodiac R
T Provance-OH	88	59	12	100	2	WMR-6313
S Rogovich-VA	8	6	1	9		
S Sachs-IL	32	25	1	33		
H Short-MA	1	1		1		RFM
C Smolinski-MD	29	26	3	32	2	R Confusion
P Spurlock-TN	3	3		3		
M Twigg-MN	23	18		23		
B Wooten-GA	11	10		11		
A Yoder-WV	75	58	2	77	1	WCPR-1620
G Zeller-OH	103	75	3	106	5	WHBH bust

Send your QSL totals to: VR, RD#1, Box 15A, Belfast, NY 14711 or leave them in the [P]ersonal mail section of the ANARC RBBS.

 +*+ under the door +*+

QSL report for: June 1990

Ontario's Bob Ross received a full data red card (#4) from **The Spectator--7415** signed by The Merkin (Bob thought it was Radio Espiritu) and a full data bunny sheet from **WBNY--7415** signed by Blue Bell in three weeks saying 7 watts.

Massachusetts' Ben Fuller Jr. checks in with a full data "Open Season" sheet from **Radio Garbanzo** signed by Fearless Fred in a month or so, and a full data sheet from **Hope Radio International** signed by Jamie.

Los Numeros On Line is bragging about a full data letter from **Midnite Radio** signed by Mike Sanders, operator on duty.

Ohio's **ACE** columnist George Zeller nailed up three more: a full data black-and-white sheet plus personal letter from **Fourth of July Radio--7415** signed by Jett Johnson (operations manager) in 78 days; a full data red card (#2) from **The Spectator--7415** signed by The Merkin in 77 days; and a full data yellow-and-black "commandante" card with personal letter from **Radio Mauser WW--7490** signed by Dr. Selsyn in 11 days.

Ohio's Dave Dunn sold his furniture to make room for a black-and-white "commandante" card from **Radio Mauser WW** signed by Dr. Selsyn in about 10 days; a full data "Unkle Salty" card and personal letter from **Voice of Monotony** signed by Uncle Salty in about five weeks; and a full data letter from **East Coast Pirate Radio** signed by N. Tesla in a bit over three weeks.

Ohio's Terry Provance decided to buy a larger house to display three full data "crossed swords" cards from **Secret Society Radio--7410** signed by Pirate Jim in two-to-three months; three pink-and-green computer sheets (#3, #8 and #24) from **Radio Mexico International** signed by Jorge in 20-to-88 days; a full data logo card from **Samurai Radio--7375.6** signed by Eddie Currents in 55 days; a full data color postcard of the **Hudson Valley** from **WRNR--7374** signed by Bob in 64 days; four full data "Unkle Salty" cards (#6, #12, #13 and #14) from **Voice of Monotony** signed by Uncle Salty in 21-to-31 days; a full data "wildlife" sheet (#206) from **Radio USA--7415.7** signed by Mr. Blue Sky in 54 days with personal note; a full data plain postcard from **Radio Crapco International--6850** signed by Pester Fester in 67 days for a report either in *The ACE* or *Pirate Pages*: a red "Arab with boom box" card (#6) from **The Spectator--7415.4** signed by The Merkin in 48 days; a full data "Ian McFarland head" sheet (#73+8) from **WLIS--7414.9** signed by Charles Poltz in 51 days with color photo; a full data "flatus bomb" sheet from **Radio Flattus--7414.8** signed by Pinhead the Skinhead in 31 days; a full data greed logo card (#0012) from **One Voice Radio--7415.1** signed by Joe in 45 days; a full data cannabis fiber card (#130) from **KNBS--7412.6** signed by Phil with pennant in 19 days; three full data collage/logo cards from **WTNU** signed by Rich Crannium in 11-to-20 days; a full data bunny collage sheet from **WBNY--7415** signed by Blue Bell in 27 days; a sort-of-full data, torn-out-of-the-book map from **Sowth Karolina Jo--7390** signed by Leroy Jamal Jermane Washington in 19 days for a report in *Pirate Pages*; a full data collage sheet from **Voice of Kentucky Fried Rodents--7486.5** signed by Col. Sanders in 18 days via Pago Pago; a full data "commandante" card from **Radio Mauser WW--7493.7-7489.7** signed by Dr. Selsyn in 12 days; a full data typed sheet from "_____"--7415 in eight days from Arlington, VA; and three full data logo cards (#5, #14.117 and #007) from **Tube Radio** signed by Ray Cathode with a note from Zippo Hiplock criticizing his reports as verbose! (whew! jta)

Tennessee's Paul Spurlock is now displaying a full data bunny sheet from **WBNY** signed by Blue Bell in nine days and a full data sheet from **East Coast Pirate Radio** signed by N. Tesla in 26 days.

Ye Olde Editor found room for one more full data paper card (#[0].071) from **Tube Radio--7395** with a strange note from Zippo Hiplock, saying thx fr the nice report.

Best of DX and 73...

Classified advertising

The ACE offers free classified advertising to members of the Association of Clandestine Enthusiasts. Send your advertising requests to *The ACE*, P.O. Box 11201, Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201.

Your loggings and information about clandestine radio stations are always very welcome for this column. You can send them direct to your editor at 3492 West 123rd Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44111. Or, you can call (216) 941-3366 anytime, or else (216) 696-9077 between 1200-2045 UTC weekdays. We once again have a great deal of timely news about clandestines this month.

CUBAN AMERICAN NATIONAL FOUNDATION

The May 11, 1990 edition of *The Wall Street Journal* contained a lengthy front page article on Jorge Mas Canosa, chairman of the Cuban American National Foundation. Recent A*C*E columns have discussed the involvement of the CANF in both the anti-Castro clandestine station La Voz de la Fundacion, and also in the Radio Marti and TV Marti operations at the United States Information Agency. The newspaper article does not dig deeply into clandestine radio issues, but it provides a wealth of valuable background information that puts the current anti-Castro clandestine situation into clearer perspective. Several points in the article are of interest to clandestine DX-ers:

- * Mas has been accused of a desire to replace Fidel Castro as the ruler of Cuba. He denies it in the *Journal* article, saying "I am not running for President of Cuba." However, an unnamed director of the CANF said that "Mr. Mas Canosa, despite his protestations to the contrary, really is after Mr. Castro's job."

- * Mas has assembled a panel of high-powered right wing conservative advisors who are serving as a sort of preliminary shadow government of Cuba. Mas and the CANF are in the process of writing a proposed new Cuban constitution. He claims that noted economist Milton Friedman has been hired at a \$100,000+ US salary to redesign the Cuban economy. (Friedman admits that he was asked to do this, but he says that he turned down the offer from Mas and the CANF). However, right wing economist Arthur Laffler, inventor of the notorious "Laffler Curve" theory that the federal government can increase its revenues by lowering taxes, is working for the CANF on Cuban issues.

- * Mas had a public feud in 1988 with Huber Matos Jr., head of the CID organization that runs the competing anti-Castro clandestine station La Voz del CID. Mas complained to the FBI that Matos and CID were plotting to kill him! Matos denied the charge emphatically, and he passed an FBI-administered lie detector test. The incident was part of a campaign by Mas to prove himself "macho" in the Cuban-American community in southern Florida. On a different occasion, during a radio show appearance, Mas challenged Miami City Commissioner Joe Carollo to a duel, with guns as weapons! Carollo joked that they should use squirt guns in this duel. Subsequently, Carollo lost a re-election bid to an opponent supported and funded by CANF.

- * Mas is the head of President George Bush's Radio Marti advisory board. He also is neck-deep in the unfolding TV Marti story. Ernesto Betancourt, former top administrator at Radio Marti, resigned in March after losing a power struggle with Mas. Betancourt accused Mas of using Radio Marti to support his campaign for President of Cuba. Betancourt also unsuccessfully opposed the TV Marti project on the grounds that it would give a propaganda advantage to Castro in his relations with the United States.

- * The Cuban American National Foundation may be the most powerful Cuban lobby in Washington. Its Political Action Committee (PAC) contributed \$182,897 to 56 candidates for Congress (in both the House and Senate). The CANF board, dominated by rich Miami Cubans, is "a business oligarchy, which has delegated political decisions" to Mas, according to former CANF Executive Director Jose Antonio Font.

- * It is widely perceived in Washington that the CANF deserves credit for all of the following policy decisions: the start-up of Radio Marti, the lifting of a ban on USA aid to the guerrillas fighting Cuban troops in Angola, rulings permitting immigration to the USA of 2,400 Cubans who were "stranded" in third countries, and the TV Marti experiment. The *Journal* article concludes that the CANF (and Mas) "powerfully influences U.S. Cuba policy."

- * Unfortunately, the article does not mention Radio Caiman, or any group associated with the operation of Radio Caiman. As usual, this 9960 KHz station remains a mystery.

In a related matter, A*C*E member and veteran DX-er Wendel Craighead of Kansas reports that he recently received two QSL's for reports to La Voz de la Fundacion. He got a full-data form letter for the now-dormant relay of Fundacion over Radio Clarin on 9950 KHz. He also picked up a full data QSL card for the current Fundacion relay over WHRI on 9495 KHz. Both QSL's arrived with bumper stickers and other goodies, including a current official schedule: Monday through Friday on 15105 KHz from "10-11 a.m." to Cuba and America, 21840 KHz "for Europe" (presumably at the same time), and Monday through Saturday at 8-9 p.m. and "Saturday midnight" using 9495 KHz for Cuba and America, // 7315 KHz for Europe. Presumably these times are Eastern Daylight, not UTC. Wendel says that he is glad that Fundacion has abandoned its for letter QSL's in favor of new cards. Welcome to the Clandestine Profile column, Wendel!

LA VOZ DEL CID 41 METER FREQUENCY WANDERS TEMPORARILY

La Voz del Cuba Independiente Democratica completed some frequency drifting maneuvers in May. Their new 7340.1 KHz evening frequency (// 9941.7 KHz) gradually crawled upward toward the empty hole on 7345 KHz left by the one month silence of Radio Prague. Your editor heard CID on 7344.1 KHz around 0000 UTC on May 7. This shift moved them away from the Canadian CHU time signal on 7335 KHz. But, with the return of Radio Prague to its traditional 7345 KHz spot on May 9, CID scampered back down to 7340.1 KHz, where they currently remain on a nightly basis.

KHMER "NON COMMUNIST RESISTENCE" BULLETIN

A*C*E member Bob Ross of Ontario sends in a copy of the April 1990 edition (Volume 2, Issue 2) of the "NCR Bulletin," a slick glossy magazine published by the Voice of the Khmer clandestine station. This is the slickest publication that I have ever seen from a clandestine radio station. The 64 page magazine is chock full of color photos, with 50 pages in English and 14 pages printed in the Khmer language. This publication is **very interesting**. It lists a schedule for the Voice of the Khmer as 6325//1200//1250 KHz (with the MW transmitters allegedly located in northern and western Cambodia) at 0530-0900 (1000 Sundays), 1100-1400, and 1600-2100. The times are listed as "Cambodian clock," not UTC. Bob says that an inquiry to any of the following addresses will put you on the station's mailing list: c/o Funicpec, PO Box 12-1014, Bangkok, Thailand, or c/o KPNLF, Box 22-25, Ramintra Post Office, Bangkok, Thailand, or c/o KPNLAF, PO Box 19-74, Nondaburi, Bangkok 11000, Thailand.

FARSI/PERSIAN CLANDESTINE OVER KUSW RELAY?

Wendel Craighead reports a QSL from KUSW in Utah that contained a handwritten tip on their forthcoming new Farsi or Persian program. This show will start up in June at 1430 UTC on 15590 KHz, according to the note on Wendel's QSL. He presumes that this note refers to the "Seda-ye-Iran" Iranian clandestine operation. Wendel's QSL (and tip) were signed by "Ralph," presumably Ralph Carlson. This advance tip will give us something to look for this month.

GODDESS OF DEMOCRACY SHIP AND "THE VOICE OF DEMOCRACY"

A*C*E member Mark Pierce of California sends in two interesting press clippings that discuss the travails of the "Goddess of Democracy" ship, which remains in transit to East Asia for its proposed offshore anti-China "The Voice of Democracy" clandestine radio service. (Actually, regular coverage of the story about this station has been very prominent in national USA media and on international broadcasting stations). First, the April 23 issue of *Insight* magazine reports that the Hong Kong government has banned the Goddess of Democracy from Hong Kong waters, "unless under distress." A government spokesman said that Hong Kong will not "become a center for subversion." Second, Mark also sends in a nice article from the May 4 issue of the *Los Angeles Times*. Staff writer Jim Mann of the *Times* confirmed the news in the *Insight* piece. David Wilson, British Governor of Hong Kong, said the ship will be denied entry to Hong Kong. In the United States, a Bush Administration official called the ship "provocative." The USA government has been leaning against the clandestine effort from a diplomatic standpoint, fearing increased tensions between China and Taiwan. (Some of the financing for the Goddess of Democracy project has been contributed from Taiwan). As has been the case for about a year now, the Bush foreign policy is tilting in favor of the Peoples' Republic of China, despite the student massacre and other unsavory actions by the government of China. The Chinese government claims that the ship will contain a "pirate" station that is illegal under ITU regulations. (The United States has a similar track record in local affairs, such as the Radio New York International incident). The *Times* article quotes an "intelligence source" that China bought two mobile jamming transmitters from France last year that could be used to jam the French-based shipboard clandestine transmitter. The article also mentions tentative plans for the ship to broadcast from a QTH at anchor off the coast of the islands of Quemoy and Matsu, which were made famous during the 1960 Presidential campaign between Kennedy and Nixon.

The ship docked in Singapore on May 2 on its way to waters off the coast of China. Since then, various press reports (including a long piece on the National Public Radio "All Things Considered" program) have indicated that the operation is having trouble raising sufficient funds to meet its budget. Stay tuned!

"PIRATE TV" IN LEBANON AND CLANDESTINE RADIO IN PALESTINE

Mark Pierce also sends in a bibliographic citation to an article that discusses "Pirate TV stations" in Lebanon. The December 27, 1989 issue of *Variety* printed an article titled "Showbiz Fights for Center Stage in War-Torn Lebanon." The article refers to the "pirate TV" operations that continue to broadcast despite the continuing severe Lebanese civil war. Has anybody seen a copy of this article?

In a geographically related matter, the April 1990 issue of Gerry Dexter's fine "Clandestine Confidential" newsletter reports that Al Quds Radio, the Palestinian clandestine station, now operates a shortwave service on 5990 KHz from 0600-1100 UTC. Transmitters are presumed to be at a QTH in Syria. The station address is allegedly Post Office Box 5092, Damascus, Syria. Gerry's valuable bimonthly four page newsletter is available for \$10.00 a year from RR 4, Box 110, Lake Geneva, Wisconsin 53147. It is a valuable supplement to your A*C*E membership.

ANOTHER CLANDESTINE NEWSLETTER

Mark Pierce notes a reference in the May 1990 issue of Monitoring Times to a clandestine newsletter published in Germany by Harald Kuhl. Titled "Clandestine Calling," it is available for \$15.00 US (with samples costing \$1.00 US). Harald can be reached at Weender Strasse 30, D-3400 Goettingen 1, Federal Republic of Germany.

THANKS!

We have another good turnout this month that has produced more high quality clandestine news. All of us in A*C*E thank our roster of direct June contributors, who continue to make the A*C*E bulletin a good source of timely clandestine information: Bob Ross (Ontario), Wendel Craighead (Kansas), Mark Pierce (California), and George Zeller (Ohio). Vince Havrilko (Florida, are the Contra stations still active, Vince?), Gerry Dexter (Wisconsin), and Ray Cathode (of Tube Radio) also checked in this month. We hope to hear from YOU by June 16 for the July Clandestine Profile column.

ANOTHER PIRATE RADIO PROGRAM AIRS ON THE WERE-AM JOEL ROSE SHOW

On May 10 at 1800 UTC, A*C*E Clandestine Profile columnist George Zeller was a live guest on the Joel Rose Show call-in talk program over WERE (1300 KHz) in Cleveland, Ohio. This was the third time that Joel has opened up his microphones to a discussion of pirate radio; earlier shows aired in 1985 (on WWWE, 50 KW on 1100 KHz) and 1989 (on WERE). Joel's program is currently the top rated talk show in its time slot within the metro Cleveland radio market.

Joel, George, and several callers discussed a number of issues related to pirate radio monitoring and general DX-ing. There was also some general conversation about shortwave listening, international broadcasting, clandestines, numbers stations, amateur radio, and local sources of DX books and receiving equipment. Joel even graciously permitted a plug for the 1990 edition of The Pirate Radio Directory. Three segments of pirate programming were broadcast as part of the show. These included a fanfare Radio Clandestine sign-on tape featuring R. F. Burns, a Stan Huxley identification announcement, Farty the Seal interval signal, and Friendly Freddie's Budget Burial ad from the Voice of Laryngitis, and a rare off-air recording of the WHBH bust announcement by the FCC from Richmond, Virginia. (Some RFM material was prepared for broadcast, but it unfortunately was edited out of the show at the last minute because of time constraints).

Joel Rose, N8JR, continually plugs shortwave radio listening from time to time on his commercial radio program. He even has occasionally sold advertising to a local ham retail store, Amateur Electronic Supply in Wickliffe. Joel announced over the air that two pirate station QSL's are a part of his own collection of radio verifications! On behalf of the A*C*E membership, I want to thank Joel in writing for his continued interest in the promotion of shortwave listening to the general public in northeastern Ohio.

Sheldon Harvey of CIDX, the current acting Executive Director of ANARC, has been a longtime advocate of the local promotion of shortwave radio listening by DX-ers. Sheldon frequently appears on local radio shows in the Montreal area, as well as on a number of programs carried by international broadcasters. Harold Sellers and ODXA have a solid track record of similar work throughout Ontario, particularly in the Toronto area. This concept is worthy of serious consideration by all of us. Local media, including radio, television, and print journalism, are often hungry for feature material. A*C*E members might think about organizing a presentation covering pirate/landline DX-ing and/or shortwave listening that could be done in their local area. Activities like this can benefit both the general public, which is often relatively ignorant of the benefits and fun that can be derived from SWL'ing, and also the existing active DX community. This idea is certainly worth some thought by all of us!

Covert Corner

By Harry L. Helms, AA6FW
7445 Andasol St.
San Diego, CA 92126

It was on vacation for a while, but the Foghorn is back badder than ever.

The Foghorn first was heard last fall. The lovely and talented Havana Moon managed to get preliminary, but reliable, information that said a Foghorn transmitter site had been DFed to a location near Managua, Nicaragua. The Foghorn was well heard until the approximate time that the Sandinistas were defeated at the voting booth. Soon afterwards, the Foghorn went silent. But it's hard to keep a good mystery down...

I first noted the Foghorn back on May 8 at 1606 on 21,004.1 kHz. I heard it again on 21,499.5 kHz at 1845 on May 12. It sounded the same as always, although its "on cycle" was shorter, in some cases as little as five seconds.

No numbers

George Zeller caught the Foghorn on May 13 on 7843 kHz at "0145, 0400 and most all night on and off." I was also listening that evening in the 0400-to-0500 time frame and caught the Foghorn on 7479.5; 8130.5; 11,417; 12,269; and 13,579 kHz. Curiously, no numbers stations were heard that night despite intensive monitoring by myself and others taking part in the *Los Numerous On-Line* conference on Portal.

In a letter to me, George wrote: "You are right on the sound of this signal--in AM, it is quite like a foghorn. But, in RTTY/SSB mode with a BFO in the circuit, it does not sound at all like a foghorn. It's obviously a data mode of some sort--it sounds a little like packet. But it is not packet. I can't copy it in packet or RTTY modes of my M-7000. I speculate that it's just not an annoying jamming mode. It's either a data mode or a noise transmitted to do propagation tests. Given its sound and some of the frequencies used, I suspect 'data mode.' Who do you think? The next question would be--who is transmitting it?"

Over-the-horizon radar

Good questions, George. Some sort of data transmission mode makes sense, and it does have some characteristics in common with the sort of data bursts one sometimes can hear from single-letter, high-frequency beacons or even the Mir downlink on 19,954 kHz. I'd also give consideration to the Foghorn being some sort of improved over-the-horizon radar system supplementing or replacing the "Woodpecker." Ever notice how the latter is being heard much less often since the Foghorn made its debut? And the signal strength of the Foghorn seems like overkill for a data transmission, especially with the multiple frequencies it often uses. Location? Since we have a good report that at least one Foghorn transmitter was in Nicaragua, my bet now would be that all such transmitters are in Cuba. As usual, more reports, etc., are needed.

George also remarks that he heard a "V" single-letter beacon on 7394.5 kHz at 0005 on May 13. This is an unlisted beacon in Klingenfuss, *The Definitive Reference*®. There's been a good bit of change in these recently. For example, the familiar "U" and "K" beacons apparently have left the air for good. The May 1990 issue of *Monitoring Times* carries a report in Larry Van Horn's column that speculates these beacons are used to monitor the water levels in remote reservoirs and lakes, with the variation in repetition rates used to encode that information. I'm not so sure I agree with that interpretation, although the variation in repetition rates clearly has some significance.

Other cool stuff heard here this past month includes five-letter CW groups on 7705 kHz around 0430 most evenings and MCW letters in groups of 10 at one-minute intervals at 0415 on 8005.1 kHz.

And I got a QSL from East Coast Pirate Radio for my reception back in April! I need more input for this column. Please report!

Harry

TANSTAAFL

By Mark Pierce
7616 Cartwright Ave.
Sun Valley, CA 91352

In the April *ACE*, Don Bishop listed the FCC's "Ten Most Wanted" list of pirate broadcast stations. Since the Commission has refused to provide any additional information voluntarily, it looks like the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) will be needed.

The following is an edited version of an actual FOIA request filed with the FCC Field Operations Bureau:

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUEST

FCC Field Operations Bureau
Room 734
1919 M St. NW
Washington, DC 20554

This is a request made under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 USC 552. I will pay applicable fees and costs for the releases of the documents requested below. If any portion of this request is denied, provide a detailed statement of the reasons for the withholding and an index of the material withheld or deleted.

In the April 1990 issue of *The ACE*, it was reported that the Federal Communications Commission has a "Ten Most Wanted" list of unlicensed radio stations.

Please release: (1) a copy of the most recent list; and (2) all records containing the criteria for compiling such a list.

This request is made in my capacity as a reporter for *The ACE*. As I am a representative of the news media not seeking records for commercial use, you are entitled only to bill me for reasonable standard document duplication charges.

I understand the penalties provided in 5 USC 552a(i)(3) for requesting or obtaining access to records under false pretenses. I am the individual making this request and this is my signature.

Dated: May 16, 1990

(Signature, name, address, phone number)

You do not need a lawyer to make use of the FOIA. All you basically need to do to make a successful request is to: (1) say that the request is being made under the Freedom of Information Act; (2) describe the records you want as clearly as you can; and (3) include your name and address.

You *must* limit your request to already existing records. The FOIA does not require agencies to analyze data for you. For example, you could not force the FCC to tell you how many Notices of Apparent Liability they issued to "pirates" last year. You could make them release every Notice that they issued, then figure it out for yourself.

Tune in next month for the Commission's response. FFFR.

Zodiac Radio 'sees stars' as FCC homes in on signal

By Don Bishop
P.O. Box 4075
Overland Park, KS 66204-0075

Pirate radio listeners in the western United States lost one of their favorite stations when Zodiac Radio was busted on Feb. 24. FCC electronics engineers, led by the Los Angeles field office's Jim Zoulek, traced a Zodiac Radio broadcast to James J. Keul III's home in Anaheim, California. Zodiac Radio left the air at 10:30 p.m. PST. Keul, 36, was fined \$1,000.

Zodiac Radio's location and antenna favored West Coast listeners, although among the 150 reception reports Keul received is one from Ontario. Western listeners hear few shortwave pirate stations because most stations are in the eastern half of the country. The Zodiac Radio transmitter fed a dipole antenna oriented broadside to magnetic North. The orientation favored listeners north and south of Los Angeles along the West Coast.

"I will be answering reception reports," Keul said. He said Zoulek took one of his QSL cards and "he has it in his booth at the L.A. office, like a proud capture." Listeners who seek QSL cards for Zodiac broadcasts conducted by Keul may wish to send requests to him at 2171 W. Forest Lane, Anaheim, CA 92804.

Keul said he never has heard any other pirate stations on the air, though he has collected many hours of pirate station tape recordings. Thus, Zodiac Radio, which Keul said was active for about nine months, was a welcome catch in the West. Listeners heard Keul replay Radio Liberty broadcasts; recordings of pirate station KNBS; polkas; and rock and roll music.

Pirate broadcasting patterns

Engineer Zoulek said the FCC's long-range direction-finding network heard previous Zodiac Radio broadcasts and took bearings that indicated the station was in the Los Angeles area.

Engineers in Washington examine monitoring network reception records to look for patterns that may allow them to predict when a pirate broadcaster is likely to go on the air next. A call from Washington headquarters to Los Angeles field office engineer-in-charge Lawrence D. Guy instructed him to dispatch at least one engineer by 4 p.m. on Feb. 24, in anticipation of a Zodiac Radio broadcast. At that hour, Zoulek and two other engineers in individual mobile units set out to position themselves in the Los Angeles area to be ready in case Zodiac Radio came on the air.

"We have a traffic problem in Los Angeles," Zoulek said. "But if a station is on the air long enough, we can get out there." Previous to Feb. 24, he said, engineers had been dispatched to wait and listen for Zodiac Radio without success.

Monitoring network assistance

Zoulek said Zodiac Radio had established a pattern of coming on the air around 4 to 5 p.m. "He was on the air regularly for about two hours every other week or so on Saturday nights," Zoulek said. On Feb. 24, the monitoring network notified Zoulek and the other

engineers when the station came on at 6:30. It stayed on the air for the next four hours. The monitoring network got a more accurate "fix" that day and helped the engineers in the mobile units get close enough to pick up a groundwave signal.

Each engineer traced the signal to Keul's house individually. "One of the other engineers got there first," Zoulek said. "He waited for the other engineer and me. One by one we drove up to the house. Then we rendezvoused a block or two away."

'We are from the FCC'

After confirming their radio measurements, the three engineers returned to Keul's house in one vehicle.

The engineers inspected the station, which Zoulek said involves measuring the transmitter frequency, power and modulation. The engineers measured the power output at 10 watts carrier, 44 watts peak envelope power (PEP) during modulation. The frequency was 7416 kHz.

During the inspection, Zoulek broadcast a shut-down announcement. The announcement stated that the station had been operated illegally and that it was being closed by the FCC.

One engineer inside; one outside

Another FCC headquarters engineer, Jeffrey Young, explained why the FCC often sends more than one engineer to inspect a pirate station. "We like to have two people there, one taking measurements outside as another observes the station from inside. That way we can be certain that, as we observe it, the station is being operated in the same way it was before we entered."

Engineer-in-charge Guy said he dispatches at least two engineers to have at least two witnesses. "That avoids a situation of 'your word against mine,' he said.

Zoulek said Keul discussed the operation of the station with the engineers and told them he had been operating for two or three months. The engineer said it was not unusual that it might take two or three months to locate a pirate station such as Keul's because "he is not on every day or at predetermined times."

Zoulek said Keul told him he had received letters from listeners as far away as the state of Washington. "He had letters sent to a mail drop, so it wasn't as though he gave his address over the air," he said.

Warning letter to pirates

The engineer said the FCC issues a warning letter to operators of unlicensed stations. The letter is handed to such an operator at the time of the station inspection, "after we make a determination that he is the operator and that he is unlicensed," he said. The letter explains laws governing unlicensed operation and what penalties may be assessed for violations. In this way, Zoulek said, Keul was warned about operating the station and what the penalties could be.

"Keul said it was just a hobby," Zoulek said. "He said he had been a CBER several years ago and that he fixed old radios, including antiques and receivers of one type or another. He freely gave us the transmitter, which he stated he paid \$20 for. We advised him that in some cases people do give us their transmitters but it is only if he would freely give the transmitter to us."

Simple station in garage

According to Zoulek, the station setup in the garage included the DX-60 transmitter, a cassette recorder and a microphone. He said the station inspection took about an hour and

that Keul was cooperative during the inspection.

Zoulek has been with the FCC for 22 years and has traced several pirate broadcast stations, although he said they are not common in the Los Angeles area. "They all were very much interested in broadcasting," he said of the pirates, "and that was their way of doing it."

He said he has seen some pirates that had much more studio equipment than Keul's Zodiac Radio. "I have seen broadcast type-accepted equipment which had about 250W output on AM dial," he said.

Zoulek said broadcasting without a license is illegal, and those who want to broadcast "should not do it unless they are properly authorized by the commission."

Pirate chasing is interesting

He said FCC engineers "look into everything from 10kHz to almost the light frequencies. It offers a variety of things to be aware of, that you become aware of by working at the FCC. Tracing a pirate station is one of those things that makes the job interesting."

Point-counterpoint

A pirate broadcaster's account of his activity often differs in minor details with those of FCC electronics engineers who inspect their stations. In the Zodiac Radio case, these accounts have fundamental differences. In fact, Keul and FCC representatives differ on almost every point.

For example:

- **Citizens Band**--FCC Washington, DC, headquarters engineer Robert D. Weller said Keul told engineers who inspected his station that he first became interested in radio transmitting as a Citizens Band operator. "He said he used the handle 'Zodiac' on CB," Weller said. "He stated that he had no authority to operate any station, that he had no FCC licenses, and that he was operating [Zodiac Radio] illegally."

Keul bristles at being called a CBER: "I have not been connected with CB radios for 17 years. Everything keeps popping up CB. I haven't had a CB mike in my hands for 17 years. My handle on CB was Zodiac Radio."

- **Pirate inspiration**--According to Weller, Keul said he got the idea for pirate broadcasting from reading stories about it in *Popular Communications* magazine. "He alluded to plans for going on the air 24 hours a day," Weller said.

Keul confirmed his inspiration came from *Popular Communications*. "I read the 'Pirate's Den' column." Keul said he bought his transmitter for \$20 at a local swapmeet and ordered shortwave crystals from International Crystal Manufacturing in Oklahoma City.

- **The inspection**--"A man was in the garage and he was coming out as we drove up," Zoulek said. "We said: 'We are from the FCC. We are requesting a station inspection. What is your name? Do you have identification?'"

Zoulek said when Keul was asked if he would permit a station inspection, he told the engineers he would "cooperate fully."

Keul said: "I was shook when they came running up. They came right as I signed off at 10:30 p.m. Did they see me or didn't they? They claim they saw me [broadcasting]. They came on like Gestapo. They said it was their right to enter."

Keul said Zoulek quoted things he had broadcast months before, indicating the FCC had been monitoring Zodiac Radio. "I had played recordings of Radio USA in which the announcer says "HIGH-low" instead of "HEE-low" for Hilo, Hawaii. One engineer was on me about the incorrect pronunciation. It had been two months earlier that I played the tape."

Keul said the engineers stayed for two-and-a-half hours, until 1 a.m. "They went all

through the back yard. They used my ladder to get onto the roof to look at antennas up there. They were curious about the scanner and shortwave receiving antennas. I had to show them they were not hooked up to the transmitter. They diagrammed everything and traced where the coax ran from the garage to the antenna."

Zoulek said the inspection lasted 45 minutes to an hour.

- **'Gestapo' reference**--Keul said the FCC engineers "came on like Gestapo." Zoulek said: "I'm not sure what his definition of Gestapo is. It is my goal to not do that."

- **Crystals**--Keul said Zoulek told him he knew where Keul had purchased his crystals. "He didn't mention the name of the supplier, but he said he knew where I had got them. The discussion of the crystals took up as much time as any other points he made."

Keul said someone else, who he referred to as "Mr. X" to withhold his identity, ordered the crystals on his behalf.

"Zoulek thought I was 'Mr. X' because in fact 'Mr. X' ordered the crystals. It shocked me. 'How do you know *him*?' I asked.

"Zoulek told me: 'We know "Mr. X" ordered the crystals.' He asked me: 'What is he doing with them?'"

"I told him, 'You'll have to talk with "Mr. X."'"

"International Crystal will sell you crystals for \$10," Keul said, "and then they will notify the FCC that you bought them."

Keul said the engineers were visibly upset when they found he was not "Mr. X," because they had been certain that was who was behind Zodiac Radio.

Engineer-in-charge Guy said: "We do not obtain any information from crystal manufacturers. I don't have the time to go to that much trouble."

Royden Freeland, president of International Crystal, said: "We do get calls from time to time from the FCC looking for something. But they are so rare. I can't remember when the last one was. It may have been five years ago. It certainly is not something they do on a regular basis as far as we're concerned."

He went on to say he is the only company official who may authorize a search of the customer database. He said he has received no requests from Lawrence Guy, Jim Zoulek or any other FCC representative in recent years. "Most of that information [orders for crystals] is on our customer database in the computer for some short length of time, maybe six months to a year," he said. (Additional detail about International Crystal's policies for releasing information about its customers will appear in a future article.)

- **Transmitter power**--Zoulek said he measured Zodiac Radio's Heathkit DX-60 transmitter RF power output at 10 watts carrier, 44 watts peak envelope power (PEP).

Keul said the transmitter produced 30 watts carrier power and 44 watts during modulation, as measured with an in-line wattmeter.

Heathkit rates the DX-60 at 60 watts peak AM input, roughly equivalent to 10 watts carrier and 40 watts peak output.

- **QSL card**--Keul said Zoulek took a QSL card and "he has it in his booth at the L.A. office, like a proud capture."

Zoulek said: "I don't have a 'booth.' I have a regular office. And he gave us the QSL card."

("Took" does not necessarily mean "confiscate." For example, if Keul offered Zoulek a card and Zoulek accepted, it still would be proper to say Zoulek took the card.)

- **The fine**--An April ACE news item reported Keul's \$1,000 fine as being equivalent to about \$100 per watt, based on the 11 watts carrier output mentioned in the report. Keul took the calculation to mean the fine was based on his power level.

"The fine had nothing to do with the power," Keul said. "The fine was \$1,000 because it is the smallest the FCC can levy. At the office they whipped out a code book and showed

me the fines and said \$1,000 is the smallest."

Lawrence Guy said what he showed Keul was a copy of the Communications Act. He said \$1,000 is not the smallest fine the FCC can levy. "I am responsible for issuing the fine," he said. "If in my judgment no fine were required, I wouldn't issue one. If I issued one and later decided it was inappropriate, I could reduce it or cancel it. I cancelled one last week."

A \$1,000 fine is typical for the first offense of pirate broadcasting on frequencies commonly used by pirates. The fine might be reduced after it is issued, but such a reduction occurs only if the violator requests it and gives reasons to support the request.

According to Guy (and confirmed by Keul), Keul did not ask for a reduction, but he did ask Guy to accept monthly payments of \$100. Guy agreed to the payment plan.

In setting the initial fine, Guy said he took into account Keul's "degree of contrition and cooperation and whether he indicated any willingness to comply with the law." To evaluate those factors, Guy asked Keul to come to his office for an interview. Guy said he often conducts such interviews in cases involving unlicensed operation, false distress calls and hoaxes.

- **Equipment surrender**--Keul said Zoulek told him he faced "a \$50,000 fine and 10 years in jail unless I cooperated, and cooperation means surrendering the transmitter."

Zoulek said he told Keul: "In some cases people do give us their transmitters but we would take your transmitter only if you freely give the transmitter to us. As for the penalty, I quote what is on the back of the warning letter, which says \$10,000 and/or one year in prison, as is stated in the Communications Act or Title 47 of the U.S. Code."

Regarding the mention of a fine and jail term, Guy said: "What happened was when the engineers read the Communications Act to him, the actual maximum was probably read to him or told to him because this is standard operating procedure in my office. We read the Communications Act and the maximum penalties to an unlicensed broadcaster to make him think twice about doing it again."

Guy said the Act recently was amended, so the current maximum penalties may not match the fine and jail term quoted to Keul. "I recall \$10,000 and two years," he said.

Keul said Zoulek "threatened" him a second time with the \$50,000 fine and 10-year jail term. "They took what I gave them," he said. "I asked if they wanted the microphones."

"That would be cooperating," Zoulek told me.

"You can't have them," I said. I said I wouldn't cooperate and he threatened me again with the fine and jail term. "You can't have the turntables and microphones," I said."

Zoulek said he saw no turntables or other studio equipment, only the transmitter, a cassette recorder and a microphone.

Keul said he had an audio mixer, turntables, microphones and a cassette recorder in his garage along with the transmitter.

- **The interview**--Guy said that when he interviewed Keul in his office, he handed Keul a Notice of Apparent Liability that said Keul was being fined \$1,000. Such a notice explains that the recipient has 30 days to respond and to request a reduction in the fine or that it not be imposed.

During our first conversation, Keul said he never received the notice and therefore was unaware he could ask for a reduction or cancellation of the fine. Later, he said, he discovered an oversight: He had not understood the nature of the document Guy handed him. When he reexamined the document, he said, he realized it was the Notice of Apparent Liability. He said Guy explained that, although the notice states Keul may request a reduction or cancellation of the fine, "you're hearing it from The Man" that \$1,000 is the minimum fine.

The notice was typed during Keul's office visit and given to him before he left.

Asked what factors he takes into account if the recipient of a notice asks for a reduction or cancellation of the fine, Guy said: "I take into account the violator's ability to pay and whether the violation is a repeat offense. Surrendering equipment is not a criterion. Neither is cooperation."

FCC officials at headquarters and at other field offices have listed cooperation, the surrender of equipment and financial hardship among their criteria for deciding whether to reduce or cancel a fine upon the violator's request.

The discrepancy between Guy's criteria for reducing a fine and statements made by Zoulek and Guy bother Keul. "They kept stressing cooperation," he said.

"Guy kept saying, 'Cooperation is the name of the game. Let me know the information I want to know.'" Keul said he answered all of Guy's questions. In view of the extent of his cooperation, Keul said he feels he was treated unfairly in being told cooperation would bring him the most lenient treatment and being told a \$1,000 fine is the minimum fine--when it is not.

Fun while it lasted

"I had loads of fun while I was operating," Keul said. "I have 150 QSLs from all over Canada, from Kansas City and from New York. The New York request jibed with my log, but I can't see [the signal] going back to New York City. I have one from Albuquerque, New Mexico, and one from Harry Helms in San Diego, California."

Keul said he has not turned on a radio since he was busted, though he still has a few shortwave receivers. He likes to repair antique radios. "The choice ones I keep and I sell the rest," he said.

As are the antique radios, Zodiac Radio is a part of history.

FCC engineers bust WTNU shortwave

On April 1, FCC electronics engineer Rocco Campagna busted pirate broadcast station WTNU shortwave, Annapolis, Maryland, as the station broadcast on 25,000 kHz. Joe Della Barba, known on the air as "Rich Crannium," was using his mobile amateur radio station parked by the side of the road.

Della Barba said he allowed Campagna to read a "bust announcement" over his station. No reception reports that make note of the announcement were received, he said. Della Barba said he has discontinued the use of a mail drop for reception verification reports.

Details of the bust will appear in the July *ACE*.

Bob's CB loses equipment in FCC raid

Robert L. Smith of Santa Rosa, California, made about \$50 per week part-time as his community's CB radio "expert." Along with doling out advice and minor repairs, Smith said he modified CB equipment to operate out-of-band and ham equipment to operate in the CB band, and sold CB amplifiers. Smith works full-time as a printer for a newspaper.

On March 14, a U.S. marshal served a warrant for the arrest of illegal radio equipment at Smith's home, where he does business as Bob's CB. With the assistance of four FCC engineers, the marshal seized six CB transceivers and 10 linear amplifiers.

Smith's records revealed his distributor, who may be next on the list for an FCC raid.

Questions and Answers

Where does FCC electronics engineer Serge Loginow get off with his comment that pirate operators are "mildly disturbed individuals?" Does he have a degree in clinical psychology--or any other basis to make that claim?

Loginow does not have a degree in clinical psychology. His basis for the statement--not a claim--is the impression pirate broadcasters have made upon him during his years with the commission. If pirate broadcasters and pirate broadcast listening enthusiasts are willing to express opinions about FCC employees, as some of them do, they should not be surprised that FCC employees form opinions about them, too. Everyone is entitled to form an opinion and to express it--even FCC engineers.

Why do amateur radio operators who violate FCC rules get written warnings when they violate FCC regulations and pirate broadcasters get a \$1,000 fine?

The penalty depends upon the severity of the violation. Unlicensed operation, such as pirate broadcasting, normally carries a \$1,000 fine for the first offense. A radio amateur caught in the first offense of malicious interference could expect a similar fine. In a recent case involving a Baltimore radio amateur, that was the fine the FCC assessed. After he received the Notice of Apparent Liability, the ham asked that the fine be reduced. The request was denied.

If a radio amateur incurs a minor violation, such as failing to identify as often as required or transmitting a harmonic, he will be sent a Notice of Violation, not a Notice of Apparent Liability. He must respond to the notice and explain how the violation happened and what steps he has taken to prevent it from happening again. If he responds as required, the matter usually is closed.

Why shouldn't there be a licensed hobby broadcast group? If it is licensed and regulated in a fashion similar to amateur radio, what would be the harm?

You tell us. *Q&A* does not see why there should not be a licensed hobby broadcast group or why it should not be licensed and regulated in a fashion similar to amateur radio.

In fact, radio amateurs were among the first to broadcast to the general public. Somewhere along the line, apparently in the 1920s, they were prohibited from doing so, with limited exceptions involving amateur radio news bulletins and Morse code practice sessions.

Why aren't Andrew Yoder's and Havana Moon's columns in this issue?

Andrew Yoder's "DX Clipboard" column and Havana Moon's "Los Numeros" column had not arrived as late as May 30th, the latest day I could begin producing this issue to meet a timely mailing date. Their columns may have been mailed to me; I do not know why they did not arrive. My apologies to the readers and to the columnists. I look forward to reading Andrew's and Havana's columns as much as everyone does.

--Don Bishop

ASSOCIATION OF CLANDESTINE RADIO ENTHUSIASTS
P. O. Box 11201
Shawnee Mission, KS 66207-0201



The A*C*E is an association of individuals who find pirate, clandestine and covert communications an interesting part of their radio listening hobby. The primary existence of the club revolves around the publication of a monthly bulletin, The A*C*E. The bulletin reports on pirate, clandestine, covert and other unexplained broadcasts. Also, the readers are provided with other available material concerning motives, explanations and theories behind these various broadcasts and broadcasters. The ACE as an organization, does not encourage, support or condone any illegal activity; we simply seek to understand the nature and reasoning behind such broadcasts. If your interests include listening to pirate radio stations, clandestine broadcasts and covert communications, The A*C*E is for you!!

Our Editors...

John Arthur Varied Response
Kirk Baxter Dialogs
Don Bishop Features
Harry Helms Covert Corner
Havana Moon The Los Numeros Update
Andrew Yoder DX Clip Board
George Zeller Clandestine Profile

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